

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GEORGE 00441 251738Z

51

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAB-01 SAM-01 AF-10 EUR-25 AID-20 EB-11

FEA-02 SCI-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 INT-08 STR-08

DRC-01 /215 W

----- 080909

R 251520Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9490

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY NASSAU

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GY, IS

SUBJECT: GUAYANA BREAKS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL

REF: GEORGETOWN 0425

1. SUMMARY: ON MARCH 21 GOG MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ANNOUNCED DECISION TO BREAK DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL. TEXT OF ANNOUNCEMENT EXPLAINS MOVE AS EXPRESSION OF SOLIDARITY WITH ARABS, INCLUDING PALESTINIANS, AND PLEDGES GOG SUPPORT FOR ARABS. ONLY ISRAELI OFFICIAL IN COUNTRY IS CITRUS SPECIALIST WHO IS EXPECTED TO LEAVE SHORTLY. END SUMMARY.

2. ON MARCH 21, GOG MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS MADE PUBLIC DECISION TO BREAK DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL WHICH WAS REPORTED REFTEL. TEXT OF ANNOUNCEMENT IS AS FOLLOWS:
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PAGE 02 GEORGE 00441 251738Z

QUOTE. THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ANNOUNCED TODAY

THAT IN PURSUANCE OF THE EXPRESSED SOLIDARITY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF GUYANA WITH THE ARAB PEOPLES OF THE MIDDLE EAST INCLUDING THE DISPOSSED PEOPLES OF PALESTINE AND WITH RESPECT TO THE APPEAL, MADE AT THE FOURTH SUMMIT CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES HELD IN ALGIERS IN SEPTEMBER 1973, AND REAFFIRMED AT THE CURRENT MEETING IN ALGIERS OF THE BUREAU, THE GOVERNMENT OF GUAYANA HAS TAKEN THE DECISION TO TERMINATE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL. PARAGRAPH. IN ANNOUNCING THIS DECISION THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, RECALLED THE STATEMENT MADE BY PRIME MINISTER BURNHAM ON OCTOBER 14, 1973, ON THE CONDITIONS WHICH THE GOVERNMENT OF GUYANA CONSIDERED TO BE NECESSARY PREREQUISITES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DURABLE PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. WHILE RECOGNIZING THAT SINCE THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE WAR OF LIBERATION ON OCTOBER 6, 1973, CERTAIN NEW, CONCRETE AND POSITIVE ELEMENTS HAD EMERGED FACILITATING THE MOVEMENT TOWARDS A JUST AND EQUITABLE RESOLUTION OF SOME OF THE ISSUES, THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS STATED THAT THE SEQUENCE OF EVENTS AS THEY HAVE UNFOLDED SINCE THE ADOPTION OF SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 340 OF OCTOBER 25, 1973, SPONSORED BY THE NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES DID NOT INDICATE THAT ISRAEL HAD EITHER ABANDONED HER EFFORTS AT LEGITIMISING THE ACQUISITION OF TERRITORY BY FORCE OR HAD GENUINELY PURSUED THE PATH OF PEACE IN FULL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE IMPRESCRIPTIBLE RIGHT OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLES. PARAGRAPH. THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS PLEDGED TO CONTINUE THE SUPPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF GUYANA TO THE STRUGGLE OF THE ARAB PEOPLES. PARAGRAPH. AN ANNOUNCEMENT TO THE ABOVE EFFECTS IS BEING MADE SIMULTANEOUSLY IN ALGIERS BY FOREIGN MINISTER RAMPHAL, WHO IS AT PRESENTED ATTENDING THE MEETING OF THE BUREAU OF THE NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES. UNQUOTE.

3. RELATIONS BETWEEN GUAYANA AND ISRAEL HAVE BEEN CONDUCTED ON NON-RESIDENT BASIS WITH ISRAELI AMBASSADOR IN CARACAS ACCREDITED TO GUYANA. ONLY ISRAELI GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL IN COUNTRY IS CITRUS SPECIALISTS SECONDED TO MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND AGRICULTURE WHO TOLD EMBOFF THAT HE EXPECTS TO BE RECALLED SHORTLY. IRONY OF SITUATION IS THAT BREAK IN RELATIONS COMES TEN DAYS AFTER MINISTRY WROTE LETTER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 GEORGE 00441 251738Z

TO ISRAELI GOVT. CITING VALUE OF SPECIALIST'S ASSISTANCE AND REQUESTING ASSIGNMENT OF ADDITIONAL MAN.

4. COMMENT: GOG DECISION IS OUTGROWTH OF CURRENT ALGIERS NON-ALIGNED MEETING. GOG DESIRES TO MAKE WHAT IT SEES AS DRAMATIC GESTURE TO CAPTURE ARAB AND NON-ALIGNED ATTENTION AND TO FURTHER ITS CASE FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM ARAB OIL-PRODUCING NATIONS. IN EXCHANGE FOR THESE

GAINS, GOG CLEARLY REGARDS LOSS OF ONE CITRUS SPECIALIST
AS SMALL PRICE TO PAY, SHERRY

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